India Employees Union held a rally on 6th October, 1991 near the residence of Prime Minister and 7th October, 1991, they handed over a Memorandum to the Prime Minister at his residence during the time when he meets the general public at his residence.

(b) The National Coordination Committee's demands, among others, included finalisation of wage settlement, settlement and payment of productivity linked bonus, payment of pension on revised pattern, resolution of anomalies in wage structure, payment of House Rent Allowance open recruitment to direct entry level posts, regularisation of certain categories of employees, promotion against recruitment quota posts of Asstt. Manager and Dy. Manager.

(c) The interim settlement reached between the National Coordination Committee of FCI Employees and the FCI Management is under examination of the Government.

Reduction of food subsidy

831. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices has recently suggested certain measures with a view to minimise food subsidy;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the subsidy as suggested by the Bureau; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices, in its report titled 'Report on the Operations of the Food Corporation of India', submitted in June, 1990 brings together its major findings on the actual costs of operations of FCI, its viability as compared with the relevant parameters in the market, the scope for further operational efficiencies and policy changes required to improve efficasy and cost effecitveness of food management in India. The recommendations of the BICP are comprehensive and inter-related. These recommendations are essentially aimed at the reduction in food subsidy.

(c) and (d) The recommendations made by the BICP have been examined by an Empowered Committee and the FCI has been appropriately advised.

Per capita consumption of cereal etc.

832. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per capita consumption of cereal, pulses and edible oils in the country; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to improve the per capita consumption of the above commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Provisional estimates of per capita net availability, which is broadly indicative of consumption, for cereals, pulses and edible oils for 1991 are given below :

Commodity	Net Availability (Kgs/year)
Cereals	172.5
Pulses	14.6
Edible Oils	6.5

(b) Measures taken to improve per capita consumption include programmes for expanded production and imports to the extent possible. Programmes for increasing production are Integrated Programme for Rice Development, Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP), Construction of Shallow tubewells and Dugwells in SFPP Districts, Minikit Programme of Rice, Wheat, Maize and Millets including propogation of new technology; National Pulses Development Project; Oilseeds Production Programme, etc. The Programmes for development of oilseeds and pulses are implemented by the Technology Mission for Oilseeds and Pulses seeking to

harness the best of production, processing, and management technologies for achieving self reliance quickly.

The improvements in per capita consumption has also to come about through higher per capita incomes, which is one of the main objectives of planned development and the programmes for employment generation and poverty alleviation.

Revival of sugar factories in Assam

833. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have constituted a six-member high level team for revival of existing sugar factories and improving sugarcane cultivation in Assam; and

(b) if so, by when the findings of the high level team are likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir. However, subsequently, two more members have been added to this Team.

(b) The Study Team has been asked to submit its report within 3 months.

खाद्यान्नों के मूल्यों में वृद्धि

834. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय** : क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि खाद्यान्नों, विशेषकर दालों के मूल्यों में भारी वृद्धि हुई है ; और

(ख) मूल्यों को जून, 1991 में विद्यमान मूल्यों के स्तर पर वापस लाने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

खाद्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री तरुण गोगोई) : (क) खाद्यान्नों के थोक मूल्य सूचकांक में मार्च, 1991 की तुलना में 9 नवम्बर, 1991 को स्थिति के अनुसार 11.1 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई जबकि 1990 में उसी अवधि के दौरान सूचकांक में 13 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई थी । जहां तक दालों का संबंध है, थोक मूल्य सूचकांक में मार्च, 1991 की तुलना में 9 नवम्बर, 1991 को स्थिति के अनुसार 9.4 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई थी जबकि 1990 में उसी अवधि के दौरान सूचकांक में 16.7 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई थी।

(ख) खाद्यान्नों और दालों के मूल्यों में वृद्धि को रोकने के लिये सरकार ने निम्नलिखित कदम उठाये हैं:-

(1) कमी के मौसम में मांग को पूरा करने के लिये सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के लिये केन्द्रीय पूल से चावल के आवंटन को जुलाई, 1991 से पर्याप्त रूप से बढ़ा दिया गया है।

(2) केन्द्रीय पूल से पंजाब और हरियाणा के लिये गेहूं के आवंटनों को अक्तूबर, 1991 से बढ़ा दिया गया है ताकि सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली की बढ़ी हुई मांग को पूरा किया जा सके तथा बाजार पर बने दबाव को कम किया जा सके ।

(3) भारतीय खाद्य निगम को सितम्बर-अक्तूबर, 1991 के दौरान खुले बाजार में 3 लाख मीटरी टन चावल और 3 लाख मीटरी टन गेहूं बेचने के लिये प्राधिकृत किया गया था। दिसम्बर, 1991 में 3 लाख मीटरी टन और गेहूं बेचने के लिये भी उन्हें प्राधिकृत किया गया है ।

(4) दालों की पैदावार से अधिक मांग को पूरा करने के लिये दालों की पैदावार को बढ़ाने के लिये कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग द्वारा कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं । खुले सामान्य लाइसेंस (ओ० जी०एल०) पर आयात के जरिये भी दालों की उपलब्धता में वृद्धि की जा रही है ।